

REMARKS

Claims 22 through 43 are pending in the present application. Applicant proposes amending claims 22, 42, and 43.

Claims 22-29, 31-34, 37-39, and 41-43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Claims 30, 35, 36, and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim Of Priority

The Office has acknowledged the claim for priority to Great Britain applications 0400805.8, 0402588.8, and 0410242.2. In fact, the present application is a the U.S. national phase filing of PCT application PCT/GB2005/000122, which in turn claims priority to Great Britain patent applications 0400805.8, 0402588.8, and 0410242.2. Applicants propose amending the specification to include a cross reference to these applications.

The Office notes that certified copies of these applications have not been provided in this application. Applicants respectfully submit that copies of the priority documents were submitted in the corresponding PCT application as confirmed by the attached PCT notification. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that certified copies of the priority documents are not required to be resubmitted in connection with the present application.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 22-29, 31-34, 37-39, and 41-43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 6,792,246 (hereinafter "Takeda"). Claims 30, 35, 36, and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious in view of Takeda. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Applicants disclose:

first and second mechanical coupling elements that cooperate to mechanically couple the first and second components so as to allow movement of at least one of the first and second components relative to the other, wherein each of the first and second mechanical coupling elements provides a respective signal coupling means and the signal coupling means cooperate to enable wireless coupling of a

signal from one of the first and second components to the other of the first and second components. (Specification at ¶ [0006]).

In one disclosed embodiment:

[0039] [a]s shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, **the mechanical coupling between the main body and the display screen is in the form of a hinge assembly 202** as is conventional for such video cameras. However, . . . the multi-wire cable connection (generally a flat ribbon cable) normally provided within the hinge assembly to electrically connect the main body and the display screen is replaced by capacitive wireless coupling.

[0040] As can be seen most clearly in FIG. 2, in this example **the hinge assembly comprises first and second aligned but spaced-apart hinge members 101 and 102 carried by the main body 200 and a third elongate hinge member 103 carried by the display screen 201**. Alternatively the third elongate hinge member 103 may be carried by the main body 200 and the hinge members 101 and 102 by the display screen 201.

[0041] **The ends of the third hinge member have chamfered projecting regions 104 and 105 which are received in respective complementarily chamfered recesses (only one 106 of which can be seen in FIG. 2) of the first and second hinge members 101 and 102 so that the third hinge member 103 can rotate about its axis relative to the first and second hinge members.** The axis of the third hinge member thus defines the axis of rotation of the display screen 201 relative to the main body 200 of the video camera. **In this example, the capacitive wireless coupling comprises two capacitive couplers each consisting of two capacitive coupling elements separated by a dielectric. Each capacitive coupling element is a circular electrically conductive plate 205 or 206. The capacitive coupling elements 205 are fitted into the recesses 106 of the first and second hinge members and the capacitive coupling elements 206 are carried by the projecting regions 104 of the third hinge member 103 to define two sets of parallel spaced-apart electrically conductive plates that are coaxial with the rotation axis of the hinge.** The dielectric may simply be air or could be any suitable material providing the required dielectric and friction properties, for example a plastics material such as polyethylene or polytetrafluorethylene (PTFE) (which has the advantage of a

very low coefficient of friction), or a ceramics material.
(Specification at ¶¶ [0039]-[0041]).

Claim 22 recites:

An apparatus comprising **first and second components having respective first and second mechanical coupling elements that cooperate to allow relative movement of the first and second components**, wherein **each of the first and second mechanical coupling elements comprises a corresponding signal coupler** and the signal couplers cooperate to enable wireless coupling of a signal from one of the first and second components to the other of the first and second components.

In order for a reference to anticipate this claim, the reference must disclose each and every element of the recited claim language. Applicants respectfully submit that Takeda does not disclose the above-emphasized claim language and therefore cannot possibly anticipate or even suggest the recited combination.

Takeda discloses a noncontact transmitting apparatus. The noncontact transmitting apparatus includes first and second noncontact transmitting units mounted on a main device and an attachment device, respectively. (Takeda at Abstract). The second noncontact transmitting unit is ***removably attachable*** to the first noncontact transmitting unit for enabling noncontact signal transfer between the main device and the attachment device. (Takeda at Abstract). Each of the noncontact transmitting units includes a power coil and a signal coil. (Takeda at Abstract).

In connection with Figures 1-4, Takeda discloses a main device 2, *i.e.*, a phone, and a camera 3. (Col. 4, ll. 34-37). Takeda discloses that the camera 3 may be *removed* from the main device 2 and used with other systems. (Col. 6, ll. 21-27). Takeda further discloses a loading/unloading device 9 for attaching the removable camera section 3 to the main device 2. (Col. 4, ll. 47-49). In order to add to the ordinary cellular phone function, the function of transmitting the a video signal captured by the camera, the camera section 3 is loaded on the mobile main device 2 through the loading/unloading device 9 as shown in Figures 3 and 4. (Col. 6, ll. 28-32).

Noncontact transmitting units 8 are located on both the phone 2 and the camera 3. The transmitting units 8 each comprise **noncontact** power core and coil 10a, b, **noncontact**

control core and winding 11a, b, **noncontact** clock core and winding 12a, b, and **noncontact** video core and winding 13a, b. Figures 4 and 17 illustrate the system of Takeda in sectional view. As shown therein, and consistent with the remainder of the specification as noted above, there is no mechanical contact between transmitting units. Rather, loading/unloading device 9 provides for the attachment between devices 2 and 3.

Thus, Takeda discloses two separate devices 2 and 3, each with transmitting units 8, where the devices are held together using device 9. But in contrast with claim 22, Takeda does **not** disclose or suggest

An apparatus comprising **first and second components having respective first and second mechanical coupling elements that cooperate to allow relative movement of the first and second components**, wherein **each of the first and second mechanical coupling elements comprises a corresponding signal coupler**.

Rather, Takeda discloses a loading device 9 used to hold devices 2 and 3 together. Takeda does not disclose “first and second mechanical coupling elements that cooperate to allow relative movement.” The Office cites to Figure 1 and column 7, lines 32 through 41 as allegedly being relevant to this claim language. However, the cited portion of Takeda merely discloses that devices 2 and 3 may be rotated relative to each other. The referenced language provides no explanation as to any structure that provides for this relative movement. Indeed, Applicants understand Takeda as disclosing loading/unloading device 9 for holding the two devices together. But loading/unloading device does not disclose first and second mechanical coupling elements.

Furthermore, even if the referenced section of Takeda (Figure 1 and column 7, lines 32 through 41) disclosed first and second mechanical coupling elements to allow relative movement of the first and second components (which it does not), there is no disclosure in Takeda that these “first and second coupling elements” “each . . . comprises a corresponding signal coupler.” Certainly, Takeda discloses noncontact transmitters, but it does not disclose that these noncontact transmitters are “comprised” in “**respective first and second mechanical coupling elements that cooperate to allow relative movement of the first and second components.**” Indeed, the only component described by Takeda in connection with

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holding devices 2 and 3 together is loading/unloading device 9, and device 9 certainly does not “comprise a corresponding signal coupler.”

Therefore, because Takeda does not disclose the recited claim elements, it cannot possibly disclose the recited combination. Accordingly, claim 22 and its dependent claims are not rendered anticipated. Similarly, independent claims 42 and 43 patentably define over Takeda.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submits that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (215) 568-3100.

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